

Targeting IAS Prelims 2019, Here's what can ensure your success

By- Sakshi Jaiswal
New Delhi April 20,

With hardly any time left for UPSC Prelims 2019, aspirants are gearing up with their preparations. Simultaneously, it is also crucial to understand the importance of Prelims Mock Test. Being a highly competitive exam, UPSC will not allow easy go for the aspirants. This is where mock tests act as windows for the actual exams that in any case should not be avoided.

Since, assessing oneself for a highly competitive examination is must to be done at regular intervals, Mock Tests are the only best sources to assess yourself on the most relevant questions and topics, which hold high probability of being asked in the actual Civil Services Prelims Exam. "Solving a good number of Mock Tests help students not only cover the entire syllabus and important topics efficiently while understanding the pattern, but also boost up the confidence level to go for the



final quest as the Test Series are always designed in strict regard to that of UPSC Civil Services Exam. Civil Services Exam, being one of the most competitive examinations, comes with a round of speculations revolving around the examination pattern, difficulty level of the questions, etc. And being the most unpredictable exam, students must solve as many Test Series as possible to cover almost every probable question

which can be asked by UPSC." **Said Mr. Manoj K. Jha, Faculty at GS SCORE, New Delhi.**

A series of right mock tests and regular solving of the same will help master this knowledge in all the needful dimensions, resulting in an improved performance for the actual exams! "Candidate preparing for the Civil Services Prelims exam must solve multiple tests to practice and get a stronger hold each subject and

dimension covered in the Civil Services Prelims Exam.

"If you look at the trends for the past 10 years, competition has increased way beyond expectations and is thus affecting the success rate even for the serious candidates. Now when you don't have an assurance of success, it is obvious that mastering the syllabus to the needful depths is the only way out! Practising this knowledge is of utmost importance to synchronise your preparation with the expectations of your examiner." **He added** Trust and confidence on one's dedication & efforts are certain elements that always compliment the preparation for exams like the Civil Services Examination. And what will increase your confidence more than perfecting the preparation in the right way? Mock Tests are an ultimate confidence booster and solving multiple tests will also help you enhance your concentration.

PM Modi accuses Congress of building false narrative around EVMs & demonetisation

Agency
New Delhi April 20,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has charged the Congress of building a false narrative around electronic voting machines and demonetisation. In an interview to a private TV channel, Mr Modi said his

government has achieved milestones in various fields of developments and in the next five years, will work faster to achieve the dreams of the common people.

Prime Minister also charged the opposition of making false promises to the people and following a communal agenda. Mr Modi alleged that

Congress leaders have been meeting those convicted by courts but he will continue to deal firmly with separatists. Prime Minister said Congress leaders who question the candidature of Sadhvi Pragya Thakur, who is contesting for the Lok Sabha seat from Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, are themselves out on bail.

PM Modi and Rahul Gandhi to hold election rallies in Bihar today

Agency
New Delhi April 20,

Senior BJP leader and Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress President Rahul Gandhi will hold election rallies in Bihar today. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress President Rahul Gandhi will address their

fourth election rally in Bihar during the ongoing election campaign in the state. Mr Modi will address election meeting at Forbesganj in Araria Lok Sabha constituency. Senior JD(U) leader and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar will share the dais with PM. While Congress President Rahul Gandhi will address a

rally in Supaul. RJD leader Tejaswi Prasad Yadav and Hindustani Awam Morcha Chief Jitan Ram Manjhi will be on the dais with Rahul Gandhi. Both Constituency Araria and Supaul along with three other constituencies Madhepura, Khagaria and Jhansi will go polls in the third Phase on April 23.

'Bid to deactivate CJI's office': Justice Ranjan Gogoi on sexual misconduct charges

Agency
New Delhi April 20,

The Supreme Court on Saturday held an urgent hearing after a former woman employee accused the Chief Justice of India of sexual misconduct.

A special bench comprising Justice Arun Mishra and Justice Sanjiv Khanna was set up by Chief Justice Gogoi to hear the case.

During the course of the hearing, Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi spoke his heart out in the court room and said that the judiciary is under tremendous threat today. "I don't want to stoop so low as to answer these charges," Justice Gogoi said.

He said an attempt is being made to undermine the independence of the judiciary by levelling allegations of sexual harassment against the Chief Justice of India. Allegations are being hurled



against me because I am hearing a sensitive case next week. I will not give in. I have seven months of service left to hear and decide the cases as they have to be done," he said.

"There are forces that are trying to destabilise the judiciary. There are bigger forces behind these

criminal background, there are two FIRs against her," he said.

The woman worked as a former junior assistant at the home of the CJI. She was dismissed from service last year, after an incident of inappropriate behaviour was reported to the Registry. "What troubles me is that after 20 years of service, I have a bank balance of Rs 6 lakh and Rs 40 lakh in PF. When I was a judge I had more. No one can catch me on money. They have to look for something else," the Chief Justice said.

"All employees of the Supreme Court are treated respectfully by me," he said. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear next week the cases related to the prime minister's biopic, a contempt of court case against Congress Chief Rahul Gandhi and a case regarding the seizure of cash in Tamil Nadu.

J&K: One terrorist killed in an encounter with security forces in Baramulla district

Agency
New Delhi April 20,

In Jammu & Kashmir, security forces killed one terrorist in Sopore area of Baramulla district yesterday evening. Another terrorist is believed to be trapped in Wattergam area after the army cordoned off the area for the search operation.

The encounter broke out after terrorists attacked an Army patrolling party and fired indiscriminately. Army personnel retaliated the gunfire in which one terrorist was killed.

Cyclonic Circulation over Northeast India, rain intensity to increase for next 2 to 3 days

Source: Skymetweather
Northeast India April 20,

During the last 24 to 48 hours, rain activities have decreased over the Northeastern states. However, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh were still receiving on and off rains. Rain and thundershower activities is expected to increase once again over most parts of the Northeast states in the wake of a Cyclonic Circulation which has developed over Meghalaya and adjoining areas.

Also, the Anti-Cyclone which was over central parts of Bay of Bengal has now shifted towards North Bay of Bengal.

Due to this, humid winds from Bay of Bengal are feeding moisture over the northeast states.

Due to the combined effect of Cyclonic Circulation as well as moisture incursion from Bay of Bengal, we expect rain activities to now increase over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur.

Mizoram and Tripura may also receive some light rains. These rain activities are expected to continue for the next two to three days. Heavy to very heavy rains are ruled out, but few isolated intense spells are there in bags for the Northeast. These rains will be accompanied by lightning

strikes and strong surface winds. One or two places may also report hailstorm activities. These rain activities are expected to go down after two to three days.

These on and off rain activities are likely to continue with short breaks over Northeast states until the commencement of Monsoon. Reason- the semi-permanent feature of Anti-Cyclone will persist over Bay of Bengal. It however will keep oscillating from North to South. Whenever, an Anti-Cyclone is over North Bay of Bengal and a Cyclonic Circulation develops over the NE states giving rain activities.

Campaigning gains momentum for third phase of LS elections

Agency
New Delhi April 20,

Campaigning for the third phase of Lok Sabha elections reached its peak as only two days are left for it to close. 116 constituencies, spread over 13 states and 2 Union Territories, will go to polls on the 23rd of this month.

Voting in this phase will take place for all 26 constituencies in Gujarat, 20 in Kerala, 14 each in Maharashtra and Karnataka, 10 in Uttar Pradesh,

7 in Chhattisgarh, 6 in Odisha, 5 each in Bihar and West Bengal, 4 in Assam, 2 in Goa, 1 each in Jammu and Kashmir, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Tripura.

Leaders from various political parties are holding rallies and roadshows across the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address multiple rallies in West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh today.

In West Bengal, Mr Modi will address a public meeting at

Buniyadpur in South Dinajpur district this morning. In Bihar, Prime Minister will campaign in Araria constituency.

Mr. Modi will also address rallies in Etah and Bareilly districts of Uttar Pradesh. BJP President Amit Shah will campaign for the party at Shimoga in Karnataka and Alappuzha in Kerala today. Congress President Rahul Gandhi will address rallies in Bihar and Chhattisgarh today.

Major fire at chemical plant in Dombivli MIDC

Agency
Thane, April 20,

A major fire broke out at a chemical plant located in Dombivli MIDC in the district on Saturday morning, officials said.

No loss of life has been reported so far and eight fire engines were engaged in the task of dousing the flames,

the officials said. "The blaze started around 6.55 am in chemical plant situated behind the Manpada police station in Dombivli MIDC," Regional Disaster Management Cell (RDMC) chief Santosh Kadam said.

An officer from Manpada police station said, "Eight fire engines have been

deployed to bring the blaze under control. However, even at 10 am, it was still raging and the fire fighters were struggling to douse the flames."

Te cause of the blaze yet to be ascertained, fire brigade sources said.

Thick black smoke from the fire has engulfed the area surrounding the plant.

'Reports of polling have put brakes on Speedbreaker Didi': PM Modi in Bengal

Agency
New Delhi April 20,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday launched a fresh attack on West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee saying that her model of governance is based on corruption, conspiracy against the poor and appeasement. PM Modi said Banerjee is rattled with the polling in the first two phases of the Lok Sabha elections. "The reports of polling in the first two phases (of Lok Sabha elections) in Bengal have put brakes on Speedbreaker Didi (a reference to Banerjee). She has lost her sleep," said PM Modi, who was addressing an election rally in West Bengal's Buniadpur.

The prime minister said the BJP workers are being attacked in Bengal as the Trinamool Congress is rattled with the kind of support the Modi government has received in the first two phases of polling. "One more worker of our party has been killed in Purulia... Har

atyachar ka nyay hoga (justice will be done for every atrocity). Strict punishment will be given to those resorting to violence in Bengal. Ab nyay hoga (justice will be served now)," he told the crowd gathered to hear his speech in Balurghat Lok Sabha constituency in Bengal's South Dinajpur district.

PM Modi's rally in Bengal came three days ahead of the third phase of the Lok Sabha polls, on April 23. Five parliamentary constituencies, Balurghat, Malda Uttar, Malda Dakshin, Murshidabad and

Jangipur will vote in the third phase of the national elections.

The BJP has set an ambitious target of winning 23 of 42 Lok Sabha seats in Bengal, where the party had won only two seats five years ago. Top BJP leaders have been campaigning aggressively in Bengal targeting the Banerjee government over a range of issues.

PM Modi was scheduled to address a rally in north Bengal before the second phase of polls (April 18) but he could not make it.

Army rescues 2 police personnel, 1 civilian

Agency
Guwahati April 20,

Army officials rescued 3 police personnel and a civilian who had met with an accident while escorting a vehicle carrying Electronic Voter Machine (EVM) here. The vehicle carrying police officials and the civilian met

with an accident on April 19. They were rushed to the Military hospital in Dimapur, where they are being treated for their injuries.

Autonomous District Lok Sabha constituency of Karbi Anglong went to polls in the second phase on April 18.